Attorney's Docket No.: 14170-061001 / 25-31-0081

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE icant: Mark D. Markel

Art Unit: 3739

Examiner: Aaron F. Roane

No.: 09/996,978 : October 31, 2001

: METHOD FOR TREATING TISSUE IN ARTHROSCOPIC ENVIRONMENT Title

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR ONE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136, applicant hereby petitions that the period for response to the action dated March 12, 2003, be extended for three months to and including September 12, 2003.

Enclosed is a check for \$930 for the required fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 43,594

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